

VIA:

AIR

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SECURITY INFORMATION

DISPATCH NO.

MGLA-9548

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CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, Foreign Division M

DATE: 12 December 1951

FROM : Chief of Station, Karlsruhe *4/28*

SUBJECT: GENERAL—Operational

SPECIFIC—USAGE - Developmental Project #2 - CSR

REFS: MGLA-8836, 7559, 8839, 7503, 9547

1. SIC-06, the third courier of this USAGE operation, returned from Slovakia on 17 November and is still in the process of being debriefed. As an initial report on this latest crossing, we are submitting the following, which is a detailed report of the trip, together with a general listing of some of the information procured, most of which will be processed as MGP's.

2. SIC-06 and SIC-01 departed Linz by train at 0351 hours on 10 October and arrived in Vienna at 0735. While enroute they occupied separate compartments in the train and encountered no difficulties through the Sovzone. Remaining overnight in Vienna, they departed on 12 October by train and arrived in Hohenau, Austria, where they stayed overnight with a friendly family (see para. 1, MGLA-9547). A reconnaissance of the border revealed that the Dyja River could not be waded, so both returned to the family, from whence they proceeded on the following morning to Vienna. On the suggestion of SIC-06, both took a bus from Vienna to Seefeld, Austria, arriving at 1945 hours, from where they went on foot across the border between Slup and Jaroslavice at a point where they were able to cross the Dyja River on a bridge. After crossing the railroad between Znojmo and Breclav, they went East to Bozice railroad station. No gendarmery nor police were encountered along the way, and none were seen at the Bozice station. Taking a train from Bozice at 0710, they arrived in Okrisky at 0950, where they purchased new tickets for Brno. Travelling from Brno by way of Breclav they arrived in Kutý at 0320 on 16 October. From here they proceeded on foot to Borsky Sv. Jur, where they stayed with (see para. 2, MGLA-9547). While SIC-06 rested, SIC-01 visited relatives and his family on 17 October. (This was contrary to directives). SIC-06 states that 01 also picked up a revolver at his family's house. On 18 October, the two separated, arranging to meet again on 20 October.

3. On 18 October, 06 proceeded by train to Bratislava and contacted Frantisek KOLNIK (cover name) - for true identity see para. 3, MGLA-9547. While in Bratislava, 06 resided with his friend Stefan GRINAVSKY (cover name) - see para. 4, MGLA-9547. GRINAVSKY was recommended by SLAB, and

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EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

(2)(A) Privacy

(2)(B) Methods/Sources

(2)(G) Foreign Relations

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Date: 2005

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agreed to collaborate in intelligence collection. We are told that GRINAVSKY is officially authorized to travel within CSR by road, rail and air, and that he possesses a private automobile. He is alleged to have a number of connections in official positions which he will use as witting and unwitting informants. These connections will be named as reports are submitted. He is further stated to have as a connection an officer with the CS army now in the Kosice garrison and a NCO friend with the Bratislava garrison who he states is willing to collaborate. Another claimed connection is a relative working as an engineer with the ZAPADO-SLOVENSKE ELEKTRARNE, electricity works at Trnava, from whom he can get both details about the firm itself and delivery and consumption of electricity to other industrial enterprises. GRINAVSKY will also supply complete data on the firm for which he is employed. We will forward a separate MGLA with further data on the GRINAVSKY connection.

4. On October 20, 06 was met by 01 at Borsky Sv. Jur at the house in P2, MGLA-9547. Here he was informed that SIC-01 had contacted (P2-7559), who had awaited SIC-01 since 15 August, when he should have returned, and in the meantime had legalized himself and was living with his parents, and was not willing to jeopardize them by coming to Austria at this time. SIC-06 asked SIC-01 to attempt to persuade this colonel to come out immediately and SIC-01 stated he would do his best. SIC-01, however, would not divulge the address of the colonel. Because of the fact that SIC-01 left Borsky Sv. Jur on foot to visit him and returned the same day, SIC-06 believes the colonel's home must be in that vicinity. Both again parted the same day, and SIC-06 arranged to meet SIC-01 in Borsky Sv. Jur on 27 October.

5. On 21 October SIC-06 visited Malacky, and made contact with a personal friend, Jakub BJELY (cover name) - for true identity, see para. 8, MGLA-9547. BLC-06 states that BJELY is a member of the Slovakian Communist Party by direction of the Bjela Legia, and that he will act as a witting informant, providing permanent observation of the Malacky garrison, the Kuchyna airport and the border in the Malacky district. BJELY is said to be personally well acquainted with the Malacky district StB commander, BENACKA, fnu, from whom he also hopes to procure information. BJELY took a number of photos in the Malacky/Borsky Sv Jur area, and these are currently being developed.

6. On 23 October SIC-06 went from Kutý to Praha, arriving in Praha in the afternoon. He states that checks and controls were especially frequent on that date, probably due to the visit of PIECK to Praha. While in Praha, he contacted Jozef NOVY (cover name) - for true identity see para. 5, MGLA-9547, a former university classmate. NOVY will supply quarters to 06 on future visits to Praha, and will provide information on motor transport and fuel distribution. On 25 October, 06 travelled by train to Pribram, where he contacted Vaclav MILLER (cover name) - for true identity, see para. 6, MGLA-9547. MILLER is the source of report listed in para. 11a below. He will further report permanently on activities at the location of his permanent employment.

7. After returning to Borsky Sv Jur, where he had an uneventful talk with SIC-01, SIC-06 returned to Bratislava and again contacted GRINAVSKY, who drove him to Piestany, where both conversed with Jan SOKOL (cover name)

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for true identity see para. 7, MGLA-9547, who is acting as a Communist sympathizer in the Piestany district and at the same time is acting as a liaison to a resistance group in the area. It was agreed during this meeting that SOKOL would provide intelligence of a military and police nature, and would be contacted by SIC-07, who intends to make the next courier trip. Discussion was also held about the possibility of a ranking member of the resistance group contacting a U.S. representative in Austria, and SOKOL hopes to have information on this by the time of the next courier trip.

8. On 2 November, SIC-06 returned to Borsky Sv Jur, where he remained until 3 November. Here, SIC-06 states, numerous arrests and searches were being made by CSR army personnel as a result of an abortive sabotage attempt made on Kuchnya airstrip by a group of around 15 Slovaks on the night of 2 November. 06 therefore went to Sastin, where he was given refuge by the sister of Jan VRANA. SIC-01 was in the meantime hiding with a girl friend, whose name is unknown. SIC-06 returned on 8 November to Borsky Sv Jur, where he met SIC-01 and returned to Bratislava. The mother of SIC-01 was sent to visit her brother at Jaroslavice to check border conditions for the return journey, and reported that there were no unusual border controls being made.

9. On 12 November, therefore, both SIC-06 and SIC-01 boarded a bus at Znojmo destined for Jaroslavice. SIC-06 reports that at the bus-stop prior to reaching Slup, the bus was checked by gendarmes, and SIC-01 and three other young men were removed from the bus. SIC-06, who was at the time talking to the girl bus-driver, states he was not even checked.

10. Leaving the bus at Slup, SIC-06 went by foot and crossed the border just west of Seefeld, where he spent the night sleeping in a shed. The following day he took a bus to Vienna, where he stayed in the Salesian Monastery. On 14 November he returned to Salzburg.

11. SIC-06 brought the following intelligence with him from CSR:

a. A report on the 'Stredoceske Rudne Doly' pit mines near Pribram, giving number of employees, labor methods, production, security, source of power, transport output and description, together with a sample of ore from the mine.

b. A report on the 'Slovakofarma Hlohovec', morphine, chemical and Pharmaceutical enterprise, with location, description and production methods.

c. A report on consumer goods and prices, including food, clothing, hardware, currency regulation and black market within CSR.

d. A chart showing delivery of agricultural products by county within the Malacky district.

e. A study program of the University of Bratislava, with two blank study books stamped by the University.

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f. A report on security of railroads within CSR, including documentation required, location of police, checks, etc. In conjunction with this, SIC-06 brought with him a 600 page CSR timetable for the winter 1951/52.

12. SIC-06 claims also to have the following possible informants whom he will contact on his next trip.

a. (for true identity see para. 9, MGLA-9547). This person studied with SIC-06 at the university and is said to be a reliable anti-communist.

b. (for true identity see para. 10, MGLA-9547). A member of the Bjela Legia, this person has assumed the role of a party line communist. He is well known to SLAA, and studied together with SIC-06 at Praha University, where the two lived in the same room.

13. Comment:

a. Our reactions to all the above must naturally be one of suspicion. It appears to us as it will to you that access to such a number of well-placed contacts is highly implausible, to understate the possibilities. On the other hand, the material and information so far produced by this operation in the very short time it has been in operation, has been impressive both to us and to the Czech desk of MOB. The results to date, we feel, have well merited the operation expenditures, and indicate continuance of this operation on that basis alone. If all of these alleged contacts are in fact available, we have only to gain by their exploitation.

b. In addition to the above, SLAA has recommended, on our request, a catholic priest living underground in Slovakia as a permanent res-identura. This will be pouched to you as a separate MGLA as soon as we can get to it. Briefly, the priest is in contact both with various resistance groups and defected individuals, and has contact with two border crossers who have successfully taken several clergymen out of Slovakia, and who is in further contact with an employee aboard a ship operating between Bratislava and Vienna. Full details on this proposal, which also involves use of secret ink, will be available probably within the week.

c. We have also had in our possession for several weeks photographs, signatures and complete fingerprints of the principals involved in this operation, but like the procurement of ID cards, the personnel and staff problem connected with their reproduction involve a lengthy wait before we can get them to you. We are also waiting for development at TAD of the film described in para. 2 a, MGLA-8836, and for translation of the documents described in para. 2 d of the same memo. When received, they will be forwarded.

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